

MOTOR VOTER NEWS



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

Edition 10, September 2007

General Election '07

The 2007 General Election will take place on November 6. Although there are no statewide candidates running for office, there will be four proposed constitutional amendments, an initiative, and a referendum on the ballot. All of these measures will be described in the voters' pamphlet, and information about the initiative and the referendum can be viewed at:

www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/initiatives/referenda_2007.aspx

Voters have until **Saturday, October 6** to change their names or addresses for the General Election in November. People who are registering in Washington for the first time have until October 6 to register by mail, or October 22 to do so in person at their respective county auditor's offices.

**YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS
YOU!**



**To REGISTER, VOTE and Get
EVERYONE
You Know To Do So Also!**

Washington State's first August Primary

The Washington State Primary took place on August 21, 2007. The Office of the Secretary of State estimates that roughly 28 percent of voters eligible to participate in Washington's August Primary cast ballots.

"Typically, voter turnout is driven by races and measures that appear on the ballot," said State Elections Director Nick Handy. "If you look at an election year with a President or Governor on the ballot, more than 80 percent of voters respond. But odd-year primaries typically produce the lowest turnouts in the elections cycle."

Secretary Reed was instrumental in changing Washington law to move the primary ahead four weeks from September to August. The date change was critical to protect the right to vote for military and overseas citizens who will have more time to receive, vote, and return their General Election ballots.

Washington State used to administer one of the latest primaries in the United States. Moving the September Primary to August also allows election workers more time to properly and deliberately prepare for the General Election, particularly if recounts or lawsuits occur following the Primary.

Motor Voter August Results

Three "Motor Voter" records were broken in August! First, the North 85th Street licensing office submitted 622 on-time voter registration forms. That's the highest monthly number of any office this year.

The second record to fall is the average weekly number of voter registrations. 1,616 completed forms were sent on average each week in August.

The third record is shared by 21 offices around the state. These offices submitted 89 percent or more of all their August "motor voter" forms on time. The previous high was 9 offices in May of this year. The 21 offices turned in nearly half (48 percent) of all voter registrations received during the month of August. Congratulations to these outstanding performers:

Forks	Friday Harbor
Port Angeles	Bremerton
Smokey Point	Bothell
Federal Way	Olympia
Lacey	Shelton
Kelso	Vancouver
Union Gap	Yakima (Ltd)
Ephrata	Moses Lake
Omak	Oroville
Clarkston	Pullman
Union Street, Seattle	

Resources

For Voter Registration information and downloadable forms (including foreign language forms) visit:

www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/register.aspx

or contact:

Teresa Glidden
(360) 725-5780

tglidden@secstate.wa.gov

-or- Dave Motz
(360) 725-5786

dmotz@secstate.wa.gov

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good. 'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm."

~Ralph Waldo Emerson